

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present communication is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed June 24, 2009. A Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") is submitted herewith.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-11, 14-18 and 20 were rejected in the Action. Independent claim 1 is amended, claim 2 is cancelled, and no claims are added herein. Therefore, claims 1, 3-12, and 14-21 are now pending in present application. Applicants set forth remarks relating to the Action below.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in the present Action. Specifically, the Examiner objected to claims 2, 9, 12 and 19 indicating that the claims are dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Further, the Examiner indicated that independent claim 21 is allowed.

Additionally, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for conducting a telephone interview with Applicants' undersigned attorney on August 12, 2009. As evidenced in the interview summary, the basis of the interview was to discuss potential claim amendments in view of the above referenced objected to claims.

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 herein to more clearly define the claimed invention, incorporating the limitations of objected to dependent claim 2 therein. Applicants have done so in the hopes of expediting prosecution of this matter, but reserve the right to pursue the original claims, as well as other aspect of the invention disclosed, in one or more continuing applications.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate

condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: September 24, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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